

and put his adversary out of existence with the comparative certainty that no conviction will be obtained against him. This is a deplorable state of affairs, but an accumulation of events in legal procedure proves its truth. On a few occasions the law vindicated itself in spite of the position of the criminals. For example, there was the case of Professor Webster, who was hung in Boston for the murder of Dr. Parkman, and the case of Colt, who murdered Adams in this city, but who evaded the gallows, to which the law condemned him, only by committing suicide in his cell. Here social standing did not set aside the operations of the law. These, however, may be regarded as exceptional cases. It is true that the death penalty of murder is usually carried out in New Jersey with unqualified justice, so that to commit murder there is to invite the agonies of the scaffold; and this is a redeeming virtue in that otherwise so-called forsaken State. We want more of New Jersey and New England inflexibility here in the administration of the law in cases of murder.

**Commissioner Rollins' Confession.**  
The Commissioner of Internal Revenue in his report emphasizes his proposal to resign office by practically admitting that he is unfit for his place—unwilling or unable to perform its duties. He reports a great falling off in the revenue from certain articles, and indicates that he knows the cause of this falling off by telling us what it is, but has nothing to show of any energetic or practical steps he has taken to apply even such remedies as were unquestionably in his power. He only mumbles complaints that certain other remedies are out of his reach and suggests some feeble propositions for new legislation. Supposing him, therefore, as honest as the sunshine, he is incompetent; and an officer with no better qualification for his place than good intentions is the worst of all public nuisances. Dealing with hordes of acknowledged thieves requires quite other virtue than that of amiable honesty, and the sooner Mr. Rollins is out of the way the better, by his own showing, it must be for the public interest. In 1866 there were collected from distilled spirits twenty-nine millions of revenue. In 1868 the sum collected from the same source was fourteen millions—less than one-half. The falling off, says the Commissioner, resulted "mainly from frauds." Here, then, was a direct increase in the loss by stealing of fifteen million dollars on one item. We know that the government certainly lost that sum through the inefficiency of those in whose hands it has put the collection of the revenue, while if we consider what was probably stolen in 1866 also we can scarcely guess the figures to which the stealing really went in 1868. The remedy against the frauds that caused this immense loss lies, says the Commissioner, "in the improved character of the revenue and judicial officers." Here is the declaration that in his own department he is surrounded by thieves. Unless we improve the character of our revenue officers we cannot collect the revenue. Under Mr. Rollins' own eyes, in his view, always within his reach, this system of gigantic fraud has grown up, and has become developed to its present proportions, and he is powerless against it. In a department thus rotten there is something wrong at the head. If it is only incompetency we may morally be glad to know it, but practically incompetency in such a place is as bad as crime. Let it be well tried if a fit man for this position cannot in some measure do away with the reproach now likely to stand against us that we have the most corrupt government on earth.

**QUICK WORK ON THE INDIAN WAR QUESTION.**—The House of Representatives yesterday, under the pressure of the previous question, passed by the decisive vote of 116 to 38 a bill to restore the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the War Department. This is endorsing the recommendation of General Grant on the subject in a prompt and significant manner. It is an indication that Congress is disposed to aid the War Department in making short work of the present Indian difficulties.

#### ACADEMY OF LETTERS AND FINE ARTS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE.

A project has been inaugurated among the leading literary and professional men of the country to establish a national institute "for the purpose of increasing and perpetuating knowledge, conducting investigations and researches in regard to matters affecting the public welfare, disseminating correct views upon literature, art and science, and promoting intercourse among those engaged therein." The proposed institute is to consist of academics, the first in order of which is the academy of letters and the arts. A number of prominent literary men, headed by Mr. Bayard, acting as chairman, and Mr. J. M. Smith, acting as secretary, have been appointed to the academy, which will be organized at the following officers:—A. Lathrop Motley, president; R. Grant White, vice president; Calvert Vaux, secretary; J. Church, treasurer. Messrs. C. W. Bryant and C. H. Rothwell were chosen members of the general committee, and Messrs. William Cullen Bryant and Daniel Huntington were nominated as candidates for the presidency of the institute. The president was authorized to appoint a committee on ways and means, and Messrs. Olmsted, La Farge, White, Vaux and Church were appointed a committee on constitution and by-laws. After a full interchange of sentiment and a discussion of the institute, the academy adjourned to meet again at the call of the chair.

#### INTERESTING COURSE OF LECTURES.

Signor Antonio Biaggi, Professor of Italian, announces a course of three lectures, to commence on Friday next, on the "Literature and Fine Arts in Italy in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries," at the chapel of the Union Theological Seminary, No. 9 University place. It will be attended by who know anything of the past history of literature and art that during the centuries named the sunny sky of Italy glowed with the most brilliant stars. And it is creditable to Professor Biaggi that for a glance—much more three lectures do not give him room for—at the eminent degree of culture which obtained in Italy at this, its most flourishing period, and that it is devoted to the founding of an academy which will be looked forward to with increased interest.

**NO KIDNAPING IN CANADA.**—In Collingwood, on the evening of the 25th ult., a young man named J. McCue was shot by a man named Winn. It appears that several young men blackened their faces and proceeded to the house of the victim, and that Winn was called to the door to receive them. A row occurred, and the shooting of McCue was the result. Winn died at twelve o'clock to-day. The parties indicted are now in custody.

## TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

### DISASTROUS STORM IN ENGLAND.

#### New Telegraphic Regulations in Europe.

#### Progress of the Revolution in Cuba.

#### Continued Success of the Insurgents.

#### The Spanish Troops Moving Towards the Sea Coast.

#### Additional Details of the Ohio River Disaster.

#### ENGLAND.

#### The International Telegraph Convention—New Regulations to take Effect in January.

LONDON, Dec. 8, 1868.  
New telegraphic arrangements throughout Europe go into effect on the 1st of January prox., in accordance with the agreement made at an International Telegraphic Convention recently held at Vienna, for the modification and equalization of tolls and for other purposes in connection with the telegraphic system.

The contracting parties were the directors of the telegraphs of North Germany, Austria and Hungary, France, Spain, Italy, Russia, Norway, Sweden, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Greece, Portugal, Wurtemberg, Switzerland, Turkey and most other European countries where the telegraph lines are controlled by the government authorities. The French franc was adopted as the monetary unit for all payments and settlements; the minimum message was fixed at twenty words, and the Morse and Hughes instruments were selected for use on the various lines.

Many other minor regulations were agreed to, such as permitting messages to be forwarded in any language; adopting wires of certain uniform size; prescribing office hours, &c. The tariff schedule for all points was carefully revised. The rate on messages from London to India was fixed at sixty-one and a half pence, no matter which of the several routes to that country they may take. This is a reduction of about one half the old rate.

The rates are to be uniform to all points in each of the several countries. Provision was made for holding like conventions once every three years. The next convention will be held in Florence, Italy, in 1871.

#### A Heavy Storm in England.

LONDON, Dec. 8, 1868.  
A very heavy gale prevailed throughout England Sunday night and Monday morning. Many telegraph reporting disasters have been received. The shipping in the harbors has suffered much. Houses were blown down. The damage is very great.

#### Mr. Disraeli's Resignation of the Seals of Office—Mr. Gladstone's Reply.

LONDON, Dec. 8, 1868.  
Mr. Disraeli had an interview with the Queen yesterday, at which he resigned the seals of office. Among the appointments which are settled is that of John D. Coleridge as Solicitor General.

#### The Times to-day congratulates Mr. Gladstone on the speedy formation of his Cabinet.

Frederic Dundas (liberal) has been returned to the House of Commons from Orkney.

Much regret is expressed that Chief Justice Cockburn has not been appointed Lord High Chancellor.

#### FRANCE.

#### Obsequies of the Late Advocate Berryer.

PARIS, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The funeral of the late M. Berryer took place yesterday. It was attended by M. Thiers and many other notabilities. Deputations from the English and French legal professions and delegations from several typographers' and carpenters' associations were present.

#### PRUSSIA.

#### Count Bismarck's Pacific Assurances.

BERLIN, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The Monitor says Count Bismarck, soon after his return to Berlin, had an interview with the ambassadors of France, England and Russia, and assured them of his confidence in the maintenance of good feeling between the European Powers.

#### GEORGIA.

#### Prominent Republicans Oppose Further Congressional Interference with Georgia—Reconstruction Not a Failure.

ATLANTA, Dec. 8, 1868.  
It is understood that Governor Brown, Senator Hill, Colonel J. E. Bryant and other prominent republicans are opposed to any further Congressional interference with the affairs of Georgia. They disagree with and oppose the policy advocated by Governor H. H. H. and are not willing to admit that the reconstruction of Georgia is a failure.

#### ILLINOIS.

#### The Late Walter L. Newberry, the Millionaire—His Will.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The will of Walter L. Newberry, who died recently on board the steamer Ville de Paris while on his way to Europe, was proved to-day before Judge Bradwell. The testator bequeathed the value of his property at \$2,000,000. The executors were required to give bonds in the sum of \$4,000,000. With the exception of a few small bequests to friends and distant relatives he leaves his entire estate to a wife and two daughters (both unmarried), with certain peculiar conditions attached, for instance:—If the daughters should marry the first male issues of such marriage shall each receive \$100,000 on condition that they take the name of Newberry. If either daughter shall marry a man by the name of Newberry the condition shall hold good with his issue, if his wife dies and his daughters die without issue, the estate is to be devoted to the founding of an endowment library to be known as "The Newberry Library."

#### NEW YORK.

#### Attempt to Rob a Peckskill Savings Bank—The Safe Drilled and Blown Open—Fortunate Discovery and Failing of the Burglars.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Dec. 8, 1868.  
An unsuccessful attempt was made to open the safe of the Peckskill Savings Bank at about two o'clock this morning. The burglars effected an entrance to the bank by prying open the door in the front of the building, and, after gaining the inside, made a thorough search, but only found about thirty dollars in counterfeits, money and pennies. They then drilled the safe, filled the hole with powder, lit a pile of one and left the bank quietly, walking out a short distance off, waiting the result. A man named Henderson passing by, and noticing the door of the bank open, went up to look in and was startled by hearing the explosion, which shook the ground and building. He called the night watch and gave chase to the burglars, but they escaped. This is the second attempt to rob the same bank within a few months.

#### CUBA.

#### Abandonment of the Interior by the Spanish Garrison—Insurgents Advancing on Mantle Espinosa—Heavy Fighting in the East and Centre of the Island.

HAVANA, Dec. 7, 1868.  
Via New York, Dec. 8, 1868.  
Advices from Nuevitas to the 31st inst. have been received.

Count Balmaceda, in command of the Spanish forces, left Puerto Principe on Friday, the 27th November, with 1,500 infantry, 200 cavalry and eight pieces of artillery, for Nuevitas.

The next morning he encountered the insurgents, who retreated after two hours' fighting.

Balmaceda reached San Miguel, a small town near the bay of Nuevitas, on Tuesday, fighting all along the line and driving the insurgents. He admitted considerable loss, with four officers killed and three wounded. During the march he destroyed several plantations.

Colonel Lofu, with his command, has abandoned Las Tunas and arrived at Manatí.

Count Villanueva, at the head of a large insurgent force, is reported to be marching on Santa Espiritu. Advices from St. Jago de Cuba are to the effect that heavy fighting has taken place at Guantamo, where the Spanish forces have been repulsed.

It is supposed the insurgents will attack St. Jago soon.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

#### Burglaries at Worcester—A Bank Cashier's Residence Broken Into—Robberies Elsewhere.

WORCESTER, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The residence of A. W. Seaver, cashier of the National Bank of Northboro, was entered by burglars last night; but they were frightened off before accomplishing anything. It is supposed their object was to obtain possession of the keys of the bank, a horse and harness were stolen from J. R. Root. Also a wagon from S. Adams, in Northboro, last night.

#### THE SNOW STORM.

#### The Storm at Buffalo—Detention of the Train and Mails.

BUFFALO, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The severest gale and snow storm of the season have prevailed during the last twenty-four hours. The trains and mails from the east, by the Central and Erie roads, have been detained four or five hours.

The trains on the Great Western Road came through on time, and the track is clear. The wind is from the northwest and the snow is drifting.

#### The Storm at Rochester.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The snow storm continues and to-day is accompanied by a gale. The snow is nearly twelve inches deep on a level. The trains on the Erie and Central roads have been detained four or five hours.

#### The Storm in Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8, 1868.  
Advices from the interior of this State report that an immense quantity of snow has fallen; in some places it is over a foot deep. All the trains are delayed.

#### The Storm at Ottawa, Canada.

OTTAWA, Dec. 8, 1868.  
A severe snow storm set in here last night and continued throughout to-day with great fury. About eighteen inches of snow fell and all the trains are greatly delayed.

#### The Storm at Montreal.

MONTREAL, Dec. 8, 1868.  
A heavy snow storm has prevailed here since yesterday afternoon.

#### THE NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE.

#### Sixth Day's Proceedings—Improvement of the Chesapeake Canal—Bounties for Shipping Materials of American Growth—The Convention to Meet in Richmond.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 8, 1868.  
The National Board of Trade assembled at fifteen minutes past ten A. M.

Mr. GANS offered a resolution that the members of the Board of Trade deplore the frightful calamity which resulted from the collision of the steamers United States and America, and take this occasion to express their sense of horror at the event and to tender to the relatives and friends of the victims their heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. MONROE, of Dubuque, spoke at great length on the subject of the improvement of the Chesapeake Canal.

Mr. STRANAHAN, of New York, moved the previous question on the matter proposed by Mr. Monroe, and it was carried.

Mr. BURWELL, of New Orleans, favored reducing, as far as possible, municipal and local charges in all parts of the country.

On motion of Mr. RANDOLPH, of Chicago, it was moved that the Convention adjourn with this day's session, to meet in Richmond, Va.

A vote of thanks was given to the Mayor and City Council of Cincinnati for their kind invitation to hold their annual meeting in that city.

Mr. HAZARD, of Buffalo, offered a resolution favoring the enlargement of the Erie and Oswego canals.

Mr. BAYLOR, of Detroit, offered a resolution recommending a bounty to be allowed for all material of American growth and manufacture entering into the construction of vessels built in the United States equal to the amount which would have been paid if they had been imported. Carried.

Mr. SHRYOCK, of St. Louis, made a few remarks favoring the restoration of the navigation by the Mississippi to the mouth of the river.

On motion of Mr. STRANAHAN the Convention adjourned for lunch.

The Convention reassembled at twenty minutes before two o'clock.

The report of the committee on the subject of tax duties on cotton was referred to the Executive Council.

The motion of President Fraley, to allow certain portions of President duties to be paid in legal tender notes, was lost.

The proposition from the Philadelphia Board of Trade was laid on the table.

The proposition from the Louisville Board of Trade, referring to the Mississippi levees, was superseded by one on the same subject offered by Mr. Tappan.

The proposition of the Dubuque Board of Trade in reference to the Pacific Railroad (Sioux or northern branch) having been diverted from its original course, was laid on the table.

The proposition from the Buffalo Board of Trade, in reference to the New York and Erie Canal, was submitted and unanimously carried.

The proposition of the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, in reference to making station reports by boards of trade, was accepted by a unanimous vote.

The Cincinnati Board of Trade submitted a proposition in reference to local authorities interfering with the corporation, which was referred to the Executive Council.

A vote of thanks to President Fraley, for the manner in which he had presided over the proceedings, was unanimously carried.

On motion of Mr. FLUMMER, of Boston, the Civil Service bill was taken from the table and agreed to.

After listening to a parting address and passing a vote of thanks to the President and Secretary, on motion of Mr. ALLEN, of Philadelphia, the Convention adjourned.

#### NEW JERSEY INTELLIGENCE.

#### Jersey City.

DEATH OF A PROMINENT CITIZEN.—William H. Talcott, President of the Morris Canal and Banking Company, died at his residence in this city yesterday morning, in the sixtieth year of his age. He became president on the death of Ephraim Marsh in 1864 and continued to hold at the same time the office of superintendent and chief engineer, to which he was appointed twenty-two years ago.

**THE RECENT AFFAIRS.**—PARKIN, the pedler charged with atrociously assaulting a fellow pedler named Steiner, has been admitted to bail. It was thought the latter was fatally injured, but hopes are now entertained of his recovery. The case of Joseph Herbering, the latter being there is also good reason to hope that he may live. A visible improvement is perceived in both cases.

**THE MILITIA BILL.** which was lost at Trenton last winter by one vote, is again being put forward by its promulgators. On Sunday evening, at Dayton Hall, an adjourned meeting of militia officers representing the state was held, and this bill in its improved form brought forward. To see that it is perfect and to secure its passage at the incoming session of the Legislature an executive committee, consisting of the commandant of each regiment and battalion, was appointed.

#### GRANT.

#### Movements of the President Elect Yesterday.

The President elect left the St. Nicholas Hotel yesterday morning at an early hour and called at Frederick's picture gallery, where he saw a number of photographs taken, and afterwards visited a jeweler's establishment in Broadway, where he made some purchases. He also paid a visit to A. T. Stewart's new store. According to previous arrangement, General Grant attended the wedding reception of Mr. Hamilton Fish's daughter, where a distinguished company was assembled. After his return to the St. Nicholas, General George B. McClellan called and remained closeted with him for more than an hour. The conference between the two distinguished generals was entirely of a private character, and consequently all the second runners of the different cliques were in a frenzy of excitement. Speculation was rife in the hotel as to the purpose of the visit, and there were many who hazarded the opinion that the much abused and reviled Little Mac would have secured the Cabinet of the more successful General when the die of March were cast. A disciple of Lavater, who was seated with the President, on seeing the face of General McClellan, declared, from the apartments of General Grant, that the renowned organizer of the Army of the Potomac was satisfied with the President elect.

#### General Grant Entertained by the Union League Club Last Night—Speech of the President Elect.

General Grant was entertained by the Union League Club last night with a grand dinner and reception. The dinner took place at half-past five o'clock in the theatre attached to the club house. Mr. John Jay presided, General Grant being seated at the right hand and Admiral Farragut at his left. Upwards of a hundred guests were seated at the table. At seven o'clock Mr. John Jay called the company to order, and after a few preliminary remarks said:—I give you the first regular toast, which at home and abroad, by established custom, without regard to personal or party differences, Americans are accustomed to drink with respect—"The President of the United States." (Applause.) This toast was drunk standing.

The CHAIRMAN—The relations of this club, gentlemen, both during and since the war, with the army and the navy have been, as you well know, of the most intimate and friendly character. We have met again and again to welcome the chief of the army, the brave commanders and the gallant officers of his staff. (Applause.) To-night we are gathered here to honor the chosen head of the American people. (Applause.) We meet at the close of a national campaign, and we have no discord in our ranks. We are united by the banner that for months waved from our flag-staff of Grant and Colfax. (Applause.)

The President elect, General Grant, is a man of the people, and his life is a lesson to us all. He has been a soldier, a statesman, a diplomat, and a patriot. He has been a man of the people, and his life is a lesson to us all. He has been a soldier, a statesman, a diplomat, and a patriot. He has been a man of the people, and his life is a lesson to us all.

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